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The Very Rev. Ansley Tucker, Diocesan Administrator

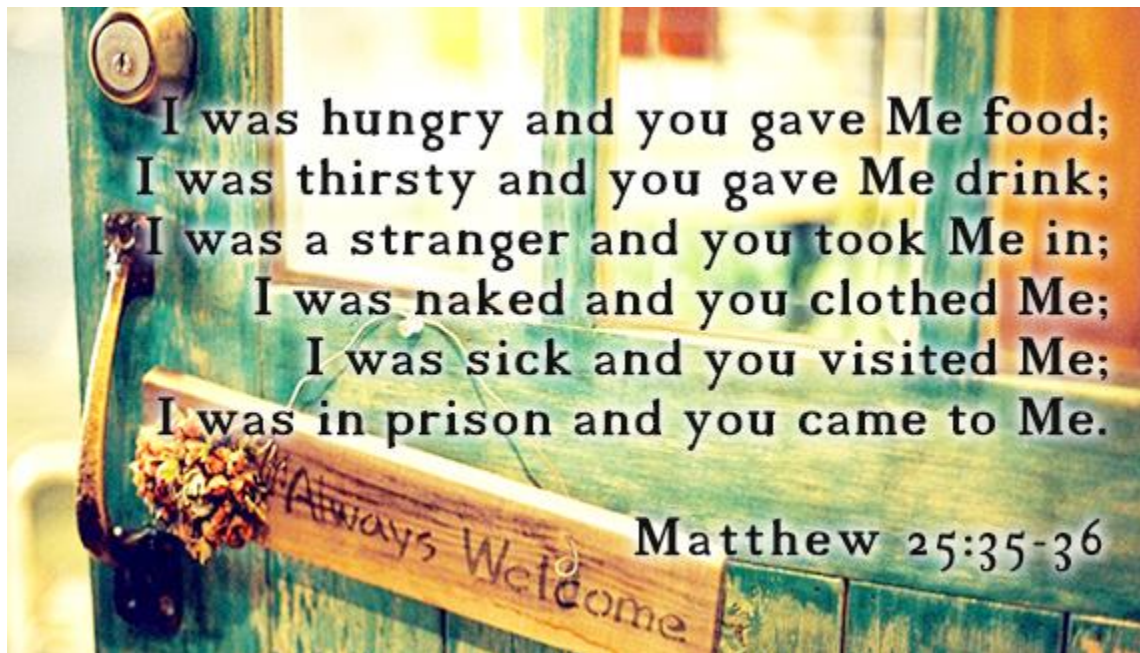
The Rev. Dr. Paul Schumacher, Interim Priest

***"Together in Christ
we seek to love God and
to love and serve all others"***

November 22, 2020

Pentecost 25

Sunday Virtual Worship Service



WELCOME TO CHURCH OF THE ADVENT

We recognize that we worship on the traditional lands of Coast Salish peoples. We commit ourselves to continue with our First Nations neighbours on the journey of healing, truth and reconciliation.

Rev. Dr. Paul Schumacher presides & preaches.

Organ prelude - Nell Howard

THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

Leader: As we meet today, we begin by remembering the Songhees and Esquimalt nations, on whose traditional land we now gather in gratitude. We acknowledge their story and their stewardship of the land and water, the plants and animals, through the many generations. As we meet together, we remember those who have called this place their home in recent years—the community of faith known as Church of the Advent, whose joyful spirit embraces us. Now let us greet one another with words and signs of welcome.

Welcome: Good morning and welcome to this service of worship on the twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost and Reign of Christ the King Sunday. My name is Paul Schumacher and I am the interim priest-in-charge during this time of transition, here at the Church of The Advent. We invite you to come and join our readers, prayer leaders, music director and choir members, along with our technical team, as we offer prayer and praise to our Creator. Come, come with your doubts, your strengths, your weaknesses, and your fears, for God loves us all and all are welcome in this space.

Scripture Sentence of the Day: Scripture shares with us, “Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessed is the kingdom of our father David that is coming!”

Opening Hymn: CP 378 “Crown Him with Many Crowns”

(Text: Matthew Bridges [1800-1894] and Godfrey Thring [1823-1903], Music: George Job Elvey [1816-1893]
©Public Domain)

Crown him with many crowns, the Lamb upon the throne:
Hark, how the heavenly anthem drowns all music but its own!
Awake my soul, and sing of him who died for thee,
And hail him as thy matchless King through all eternity.

Crown him the Lord of life, who triumphed o’er the grave.
And rose victorious in the strife for those he came to save.
His glories now we sing who died and rose on high,
Who died eternal life to bring, and lives that death may die.

Crown him the Lord of peace, whose power a sceptre sways
From pole to pole, that wars may cease, absorbed in prayer and praise.
His reign shall know no end; and round his pierced feet
Fair flowers of paradise extend their fragrance ever sweet.

Crown him the Lord of love; behold his hands and side,
Rich wounds yet visible above, in beauty glorified.
All hail, Redeemer, hail! For thou hast died for me;
Thy praise shall never fail throughout eternity.

Greeting:

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
And the love of God,
And the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
Be with you all.

And also with you.

Act of Praise: A Prayer (*from the Lutheran prayer book*)

Please join me in the spirit of this prayer:

Merciful Creator, **your hand is open wide to satisfy the needs of every living creature. Make us always thankful for your loving providence; and grant that we, remembering the accounting of our lives which we must give before your throne of glory, may be faithful stewards of your good gifts, through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord. Amen.**

Collect of the Day:

Almighty and everlasting God, **whose will it is to restore all things in your well-beloved Son, our Lord and King, grant that the peoples of the earth, now divided and enslaved by sin, may be freed and brought together under his gentle and loving rule, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

THE STORY OF FAITH IS PROCLAIMED

Chat @ the Chancel:

Song: G 591 "This Little Light of Mine"

(Henry Dixon Loes, harmony Horace C. Boyer © 1992)

This little light of mine I'm gonna make it shine,
This little light of mine I'm gonna make it shine;
This little light of mine I'm gonna make it shine,
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Everywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine,
Everywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine,
Everywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine,
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Jesus gave it to me, I'm gonna let it shine,
Jesus gave it to me, I'm gonna let it shine,
Jesus gave it to me, I'm gonna let it shine,
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Psalm: 100 (BAS Pg. 838)

1 Be joyful in the Lord, all you lands; * serve the Lord with gladness
and come before his presence with a song.

2 Know this: The Lord himself is God; * he himself has made us, and we are his;
we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.

3 Enter his gates with thanksgiving; go into his courts with praise; *
give thanks to him and call upon his name.

4 For the Lord is good; his mercy is everlasting; *
and his faithfulness endures from age to age.

Second Reading: Ephesians 1:15-23

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love towards all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

For the Word of God is scripture,
For the Word of God is among us,
For the Word of God is within us,
Thanks be to God.

Hymn of the Day: The Wise May Bring Their Learning

(Anon 1880 ©Public Domain)

The wise may bring their learning,
The rich may bring their gold;
And some may bring their greatness,
And glories new and old;
We too would bring our treasures
To offer to the King.
We have no wealth nor wisdom;
What shall we children bring?

We'll bring him hearts that love from,
We'll bring him thankful praise,
And young souls meekly striving
To walk in holy ways.
And these shall be the treasures
We offer to the King,
And these the gifts that even
The poorest child may bring.

We'll bring the little duties,
We have to do each day,
We try our best to please him
At home, at school, at play.
And better are these treasures
To offer to our King,
Than richest gifts without them,
Yet these a child may bring.

Gospel: Matthew 25:31-46

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to **Matthew.**

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.

‘When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. Then the king will say to those at his right hand, “Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.” Then the righteous will answer him, “Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?” And the king will answer them, “Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.” Then he will say to those at his left hand, “You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.” Then they also will answer, “Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?”

Then he will answer them, “Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.” And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.’

The Gospel of Christ.

Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ.

Sermon: Rev’d Dr. Paul Schumacher

Affirmation of Faith:

Let us confess the faith of our baptism, as we say,

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

Prayers of the People Nov 22, 2020

I will end each petition with: Lord, help us to serve all people.

Please respond with **Hear us O Lord**

Let us pray to our Lord Jesus Christ for all those who need our compassion and care, for all those who commit themselves to those in need and for those who are afraid to be involved. Let us say:

Lord, help us to serve all people. **Hear us O Lord.**

For all who have lost their way in life, we call upon your gracious will to make the Church welcome them in love and charity:

Lord, help us to serve all people. **Hear us O Lord.**

With all people driven from their homes, with the many victims of war and civil strife, with all strangers living in foreign lands, we cry out that people may be hospitable to them, and so we pray:

Lord, help us to serve all people. **Hear us O Lord.**

With all those who hunger for food, who thirst for justice, who crave for human dignity, we cry out that we may hear your voice in them, and so we pray:

Lord, help us to serve all people. **Hear us O Lord.**

With all those who care for the sick, with doctors, nurses, pharmacists, midwives, we cry out that we may recognize you in those who need affectionate, loving care (We especially pray for Dianne, Sheila, Alice, Maureen, Barb, Mae, Dimas, Lorna and any others you wish to name now, either aloud or silently in your heart. And so we pray:

Lord, help us to serve all people. **Hear us O Lord.**

Loving Creator, we pray for all who mourn. We ask that they find comfort in You. Let them know they are loved and wrap them in the love of You. And so we pray:

Lord, help us to serve all people. **Hear us O Lord.**

With all those who are imprisoned because of their convictions, with all those who are persecuted; who are prisoners of their hatred, their greed or their failings, we ask you to free them, and so we pray:

Lord, help us to serve all people. **Hear us O Lord.**

With our whole faith family, we pray for our community for the life and worship of this congregation, and so we pray:

Lord, help us to serve all people. **Hear us O Lord.**

In the voices that cry out to us, the eyes that plead with us, may we recognize you in them, Lord, and love you in them. Be near to us, now and forever. **Amen.**

Confession and Absolution: Dear friends in Christ, God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy; he welcomes sinners and invites them to share in his forgiveness. Let us confess our sins, confident in God's forgiveness.

Most merciful God,

we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.

We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.

We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.

For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us, that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your name. Amen.

May Almighty God have mercy upon you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of Our Lord, Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer: And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray...

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.

Blessing:

May the peace of God which passes all understanding,
Keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge of God, our Creator,
Jesus Christ, our Redeemer, And the Holy Spirit, our Comforter.
And may the blessing of the God the Father, Son, and the Holy Spirit, be with you this day and
forever more. Amen.

Shared Ministry:

Commissioning Hymn: CP 619 Fairest Lord Jesus

(text: Munster Gesangbuch [1677] music arr. James Hopkirk [1908-1972]; desc. Kenneth Hull [1952-] © Arr. Estate of James Hopkirk)

Fairest Lord Jesus, ruler of all nature,
O thou the God-head's human son:
Thee will I cherish, thee will I honour,
Thou my soul's glory, joy, and crown.

Fair are the meadows, fairer still the woodlands,
Robed in the blooming garb of spring;
Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer, who
Makes the troubled heart to sing.

Fair is the sunshine, fairer still the moonlight,
And fair the twinkling, starry host;
Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer than
All the angels heaven can boast.

All fairest beauty, heavenly and earthly,
Wondrously, Jesus, is found in thee;
None can be nearer, fairer, or dearer than
Thou, my Saviour, art to me.

Commissioning: O God of power and might, your Son shows us the way of service, and in him we inherit the riches of your grace. Give us the wisdom to know what is right and the strength to serve the world you have made, through Jesus Christ, Our Saviour and King, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, One God, now and forever. **Amen.**

TODAY WE PRAY

Pray for the Church of Bermuda.

*Pray for Ansley our Diocesan Administrator, Anna our Bishop Elect,
& Paul our Interim Priest-In-Charge.*

*Pray for S. George the Martyr, Cadboro Bay, & Diocese of New Westminster.
In the Selkirk Region for St. David-by-the-Sea, Cordova Bay.*

FOR THOSE WHO HAVE ASKED US TO PRAY FOR THEM

*Today, we remember Dianne, Rick & Barb, Sheila, Alice, Carol Ann,
Joan, Maureen, Barb, Azeita, Margaret, Mae, & Dimas.*

We also pray for those we remember in the quiet of our own hearts.